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30 July 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversations With Governor Harriman and His Secretary

1. Late in the afternoon of 29 July 1959, Gov. Harriman's secretary called me directly from New York. She said that the Governor and [redacted] (who accompanied Harriman on his tour of the USSR) had a disagreement as to the meaning of some data which were presented them in the USSR. She said that she had tried to get this cleared up by the [redacted] but was unable to do so. This disagreement concerned whether the figure of "some 700,000 automobiles" to be produced in the USSR in 1965 included all motor vehicles or just passenger cars. I told them that such a figure would have to include all motor vehicles and that passenger cars would amount to about 150,000 of the 750,000 to 850,000 announced as the plan for 1965.

2. Early in the morning of 30 July, his secretary called me again to clarify some other data involving washing machines, sewing machines, housing and population in the USSR and some comparable data for the US. Both the Governor and his secretary participated in this conversation. It seems that Harriman is preparing for a television or radio program which is to be broadcast Sunday. I furnished data on those items which were readily available to me at the time.

3. Since I had met [redacted] sometime earlier this month at an Agency debriefing, I believe it was he who suggested that I be contacted. I made it clear to both Mr. Harriman and his secretary that the data I gave them were unclassified and had appeared in official Soviet announcements. I also said that I was not evaluating these announcements.

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[redacted]

Chief, Industrial Division, ORR

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